



TOWN OF CAVE CREEK NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2022

GRAND OPENING: Cave Creek Fire Station #1

The Town of Cave Creek and Daisy Mountain Fire District celebrated the grand opening of Cave Creek Station #1 / DMFD Station # 147 on January 3rd, 2022. Mayor Ernie Bunch and Brian Moore, Board Chairman of Daisy Mountain Fire District, kicked-off the ceremony with opening remarks. The first call from Dispatch came in at 8am. Firefighters, residents, business owners, and representatives of local community organizations were in attendance for the open house to explore the building and new equipment.

"This is the culmination of over a year's efforts to evaluate and improve the services for the town's residents and business owners. We are happy to have come to an agreement with Daisy Mountain Fire District to provide these services for the community," remarked Jim Ford, new Director of Community Risk Reduction for the Town of Cave Creek.



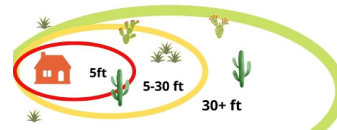
FIRE SAFETY: Prepare and protect your home and property

Cave Creek is a Wildland Urban Interface Area. With hot dry conditions and ongoing drought, it is imperative for us to tend to our landscaping to create defensible space and remove dead and dry debris, as well as invasive species which act as flash fuels in the case of a fire. To find out what you can do to better preserve our desert landscape and prepare and protect your home, visit www.CaveCreekAZ.gov/FireSafety or stop by Town Hall for materials. **To request a free wildland property evaluation call 480-437-3583.**

SEE THE SIGNS:

Cave Creek has three locations where the current level of fire danger is posted. Discover where these signs are located and what each status means for you at:

www.CaveCreekAZ.gov/FireSafety



Create Defensible Space on your Property
www.CaveCreekAZ.gov/DefensibleSpace

Brush Drive-Thru and Drop-off Event: February 12th & March 12th

To support the residents and merchants of Cave Creek in preparing your properties with defensible space and to prevent additional loss of property in the event of a fire, the Town is hosting two brush and green debris drop-off events. The Town hopes to encourage you to remove flash fuels from your properties. Load up cuttings, weeds, globe chamomile and other dead and dried vegetation from your property and come discard them for free at the Cave Creek Water Ranch. These events are **for residents only**; please ensure you live within Town of Cave Creek limits to partake.

February 12th & March 12th
8:00 am – 12:00 pm
(Residents Only)

Location: Cave Creek Water Ranch
4300 E. Carefree Hwy.
Cave Creek, AZ 85331



* Across Carefree Highway, Northeast of the Maricopa County Cave Creek Landfill.

2021 YEAR IN REVIEW HIGHLIGHTS

Find the Cave Creek Year in Review Reports at www.CaveCreekAZ.gov/YearInReview.

TOWN OF CAVE CREEK RECEIVES 2021 GENERAL PLAN AWARD

With the aid of a consultant, the 2021 General Plan was updated and unanimously approved by the Mayor and Town Council in 2020 and was ratified by a vote by the general public at the Special Election held in May, 2021. The General Plan was overwhelmingly approved with 1,016 votes in favor and 578 opposed. In 2021, the American Planning Association awarded the Town of Cave Creek with Best Comprehensive General Plan for Jurisdiction Population 49,999 or less.

CAVE CREEK RECEIVES AWARDS: BUDGET AND FINANCIAL REPORTING

For the second year in a row, Cave Creek has been awarded GFOA's Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for its Fiscal Year 2021-22 budget. The Town also received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for Cave Creek's Fiscal Year 2020 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, for the 23rd consecutive year in a row. Aspects of the program included demonstrating a constructive "spirit of full disclosure" to clearly communicate its financial story.

CAVE CREEK ABRAZO MICRO HOSPITAL NEW TO COMMUNITY

The Abrazo Cave Creek Hospital also opened its doors in 2021, receiving its Certificate of Occupancy in May when it began serving the community.



Ribbon cutting at Abrazo Micro Hospital

RANCHO MANANA LIFT STATION

Over 90% of the Town's wastewater passes through the Rancho Manana Lift Station. This past year, staff completed several significant updates to the site. The most significant upgrade to the site occurred when the original pumps were replaced with newer high-pressure units. Formerly, staff found that the original pumps could move less than 300 gpm of flow each, or only slightly more with both pumps running. After new pumps were installed, the capacity of each pump increased to over 400 gpm and the combined capacity with both pumps running was almost 600 gpm - nearly doubling the site capacity. A new Mission SCADA system was also installed to allow staff to better monitor the operation of the site.

PLEASE DON'T FLUSH "FLUSHABLE" WIPES

Despite what packaging says, flushable wipes are not functionally flushable. They do not breakdown in the sewer system and cause costly backups for property owners and the Town's wastewater treatment facilities.

WATER STORAGE AGREEMENT

In November, 2021, Cave Creek's Mayor and Town Council approved three agreements with Central Arizona Project (CAP) to allow the Town to store excess Colorado River water for the future. Currently, Cave Creek does not utilize all its available Colorado River water supplies. Arizona water law allows the Town to store the unused portion of its CAP allocation to generate long-term storage credits. The new agreements allow the Town to store water at three CAP recharge sites. Moves like these are key in ensuring the Town's long-term water resources.



For more about CAP and where our water comes from, visit <https://www.CAP-az.com>

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UTILITY USAGE AND FEES RATE STUDY

Cave Creek is conducting a study which will be used in developing the 2022 Water Rates, Sewer Rates and Capacity Fee updates for the Cave Creek Water, Desert Hills Water and Cave Creek Wastewater systems. The rates charged to customers allow the Town to provide high quality water and wastewater services. Reviewing the rates allows the Town to ensure that new cost factors are considered. It also helps to ensure that rates are working towards the Council goal that each fund has sufficient revenues to cover operating and capital improvement costs. Please follow Town news and view upcoming agendas to remain informed and participate: www.CaveCreekAZ.gov.

TRAILS AND OPEN SPACES

Numerous trail connections and additions continue throughout Town Core and Open Spaces, as well as the parking lot expansion at Spur Cross Conservation, which welcomes guests to enjoy the area's natural beauty on foot, by bicycle, and on horseback. A monument has been dedicated to the Spur Cross Ranch Conservation Area which represents the three entities that together purchased and thereby preserved the property from development: The State of Arizona, Maricopa County, and the Town of Cave Creek. September 2021 marked the 21 year anniversary when a majority of Cave Creek property owners voted in favor of a property tax to aid in acquiring the land. Residents are encouraged to visit Town Hall to purchase your Spur Cross Conservation pass for \$1 per year.

CAVE CREEK DARK SKY STARGAZING EVENTS

In November, the Town of Cave Creek sponsored the inaugural Cave Creek Dark Sky Stargazing event. Follow Town News & Announcements to partake in the next outdoor celestial spectacle scheduled to take place on February 19th, from 6:30pm-8:30pm in the parking lot at Spur Cross Conservation.

CAVE CREEK RODEO DAYS

The Town had a successful rodeo in 2021 and plans are underway for 2022. The 2022 Cave Creek Rodeo will be held March 25-27th. Cave Creek Rodeo Days is 100% volunteer-powered and you can join in on the fun at this year's rodeo by registering at:

<http://CaveCreekRodeo.com/volunteer>

CAVE CREEK LOCAL LANDMARKS

The Cave Creek Local Landmarks program launched in 2021 and has been a success. In addition to the original six recognitions, in December the Town Council approved the following 10 additional recipients which will receive the distinction and a brass plaque award in 2022:

American Legion Post 34
Black Mountain Tack & Feed
Buffalo Chip
Cave Creek Museum
Desert Foothills Library

El Encanto
Frontier Town
The Horny Toad
Indian Village
Le Sans Souci

LocalLandmarks@CaveCreekAZ.gov
www.CaveCreekAZ.gov/LocalLandmarks

CONGRATULATIONS MAYOR ERNIE BUNCH



THE LEAGUE OF ARIZONA CITIES AND
TOWNS RECOGNIZED MAYOR ERNIE
BUNCH FOR 16 YEARS OF SERVICE.
THANK-YOU MAYOR BUNCH



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CAVE CREEK CONTACTS

Emergencies..... Dial 911
Town Hall Main Line..... 480-488-6600
Utilities Main Line..... 480-488-6620
Water after hours emergency line only:
.....602-667-4574
Building and Fire Safety..... 480-488-6622
Engineering/Public Works 480-488-6630
Planning 480-488-6633
Public Safety
 Town Marshal..... 480-488-6636
 Community Risk Reduction..... 480-437-3583
Maricopa County Animal Control.... 602-506-7387
Maricopa County Sheriffs Dept..... 602-876-1000
(Non-Emergencies)

Customer/Resident Satisfaction Survey:

Can you spare about 5 minutes to help the Town establish a baseline for service and infrastructure satisfaction? Use the camera on your phone to scan the QR code below, or visit the link below. You can also visit Town Hall or the Library in-person to partake.



SCAN ME

The Town wants to ensure we increase customer and resident satisfaction of Town Services. Thank you for participating.

www.CaveCreekAZ.gov/CCSatisfactionSurvey



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